

“(III) may not be an employee of the government of such State; and

“(IV) shall be an expert in transportation policy, finance, public policy, planning or a related discipline associated with the purpose and mission of the Compact.

“(C) NO COMPENSATION.—Directors shall serve without pay, but shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with applicable provisions of subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

“(3) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Compact shall be to construct, on an accelerated basis, a North Atlantic Rail Network in order—

“(A) to provide clean, safe, coordinated and efficient high-speed and high-performance passenger rail transportation in the 7-State North Atlantic Rail Network region; including the improvement of existing intercity passenger rail services;

“(B) to reduce carbon emissions from auto and air transportation in such region in order to meet the greenhouse gas performance targets established under section 150(d) of title 23; and

“(C) to provide employment opportunities and economic development in the cities and regions served by a North Atlantic Rail Network.

“(4) STAFFING.—The directors and officers of the Compact may appoint and fix the pay of such personnel, as they consider necessary and appropriate, to advance the design and construction of a North Atlantic Rail Network.

“(5) COORDINATION.—The Compact, in designing and constructing a North Atlantic Rail Network, shall coordinate and cooperate with—

“(A) the Secretary of Transportation;

“(B) the Northeast Corridor Commission;

“(C) Amtrak;

“(D) State departments of transportation, regional transportation authorities, and other State-established entities, responsible for the provision of passenger rail in the North Atlantic Rail Network region; and

“(E) freight railroads that host passenger trains or operate freight trains over passenger rail lines within the territory.

“(b) NORTH ATLANTIC RAIL NETWORK.—

“(1) CREATION.—Notwithstanding the existing service along the Northeast Corridor, the Compact shall construct a North Atlantic Rail Network, which may include—

“(A) additional high-speed rail service between Boston and New York;

“(B) a high-performance network of intercity passenger rail transportation throughout the 7-State region; and

“(C) an integrated network of metropolitan passenger rail transportation coordinated with the high-speed rail service referred to in subparagraph (A).

“(2) AUTHORIZATIONS.—The Compact shall have the same authorities provided to interstate compacts in section 410 of the Amtrak Reform and Accountability Act of 1997 (49 U.S.C. 24101 note), including—

“(A) receiving appropriations—

“(i) to plan, design, engineer, and acquire property (including railroad rights-of-way);

“(ii) to conduct competitive procurements;

“(iii) to enter into construction contracts;

“(iv) to form project labor agreements; and

“(v) to construct a North Atlantic Rail Network;

“(B) utilizing all design-build and other alternative procurement policies and practices approved by the Department of Transportation;

“(C) utilizing existing authorities to expedite reviews for infrastructure investment within existing rights of way under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

“(D) contracting with Amtrak, State departments of transportation, or related operating entities within the 7-State North Atlantic Rail Network region to design or construct elements of a North Atlantic Rail Network.

“(3) COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS.—The Compact shall commence operations and be eligible for appropriated funding in any State that has ratified the Compact, upon the ratification of a minimum of 2 states of the Compact.

“(4) RESPONSIBILITIES.—If a State department of transportation or its related operating entity owns the right-of-way for a rail line segment within a North Atlantic Rail Network, such department or entity shall be responsible for the design and construction of improvements on such segment of a North Atlantic Rail Network.

“(5) WORK PERFORMED ON RIGHT-OF-WAY.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2)(D), all work done in existing rail right-of-way shall be performed only in accordance with the rail collective bargaining agreements applicable to work performed on such right-of-way.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 249 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 24905 the following:

“24905A. North Atlantic Rail Interstate Compact; North Atlantic Rail Network.”

(c) SUNSET.—Upon the earlier of the completion of the construction of all of the elements of a North Atlantic Rail Network created pursuant to subsection (b)(1) of section 24905A of title 49, United States Code, as added by this Act, or the date that is 20 years after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) the North Atlantic Rail Interstate Compact established pursuant to subsection (a)(1) of such section shall be dissolved; and

(2) the assets of the North Atlantic Rail Interstate Compact shall be transferred to Amtrak.

SA 2143. Mr. Kaine submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 203, strike line 17 and insert the following:

the project is located on a Federal-aid highway.

“(t) STATE OF GOOD REPAIR.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall not approve any project funded, in whole or in part, with funds apportioned pursuant to section 104(b) that will result in new through travel lanes for single occupancy vehicles, excluding auxiliary lanes and high occupancy vehicle toll lanes pursuant to section 166, unless the State or project sponsor—

“(A) has demonstrated progress in achieving a state of good repair as required by the State’s asset management plan under section 119(e) of this title;

“(B) demonstrates that the project—

“(i) supports the achievement of performance targets of the State established under section 150; and

“(ii) is more cost effective, as determined by benefit-cost analysis, than—

“(I) an operational improvement to the facility or corridor;

“(II) the construction of a public transportation project eligible for assistance under chapter 53 of title 49; and

“(III) the construction of a non-single occupancy passenger vehicle project that improves freight movement; and

“(C) has a public plan for maintaining and operating the new asset while continuing progress of the State or project sponsor in achieving a state of good repair under subparagraph (A).

“(2) BENEFIT-COST ANALYSIS.—In carrying out paragraph (1)(B)(ii), the Secretary shall establish a process for analyzing the cost and benefits of projects under that paragraph, ensuring that—

“(A) the benefit-cost analysis includes a calculation of all the benefits addressed in the performance measures established under section 150;

“(B) the benefit-cost analysis includes a consideration of the total maintenance cost of an asset over the lifecycle of the asset; and

“(C) the State demonstrates that any transportation demand modeling used to calculate the benefit-cost analysis is based on retrospective analysis of the accuracy of past forecasting and calibration to real-world conditions or has a documented record of accuracy.

“(3) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any project that is fully funded in an adopted State transportation improvement program as of the date of enactment of this subsection.”

SA 2144. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2160, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

(F) The eligible entity has demonstrated that the middle mile infrastructure will connect historically black colleges and universities and minority service institutions with other such colleges, universities, and institutions for collaboration and resource sharing.

SA 2145. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 2173, strike line 24 and all that follows through page 2174, line 11, and insert the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A participating provider shall allow an eligible household to apply the affordable connectivity benefit to any internet service offering of the participating provider at the same terms available to households that are not eligible households.

SA 2146. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to